

CADET PROGRAMS TODAY

The Official Bulletin for the Leaders of America's Finest Youth

January + February 2005



Ascent, a solid steel sculpture at the Smithsonian's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, reflects a jet flying overhead and the museum's observation tower. The museum will host CAP's 2005 National Cadet Competition.

CIVIL AIR PATROL

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Re-designed "Member Kit" launches

New CAP members have a new resource in the re-designed "Member Kit."

The kit includes a zip-up leather binder, CD-ROM, mini-posters, wallet cards, and other educational resources that will help new cadets and seniors get started in their CAP service.

The CD-ROM, called "The Next Step," is loaded with CAP publications, forms, and videos. It guides new cadets and seniors in taking the "next step" in their professional development.

National Headquarters began shipping the kits on 3 November.

Udvar-Hazy to host cadet competition

Partnership brings CAP's top drill teams, color guards, to Washington DC

Smithsonian museum to provide fabulous backdrop for test of aerospace leadership

The National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center will host the 2005 National Cadet Competition.

CAP's top cadet drill teams and color guards will vie for the coveted USAF Chief of Staff Sweepstakes Trophy from 6-10 July 2005 at the new Smithsonian museum, which is adjacent to Dulles International Airport in metro Washington DC.

CAP's partnership with the Udvar-Hazy Center will connect the 168 competing cadets from across the nation with the largest collection of historic aircraft and spacecraft in the world.

It is a perfect venue for a competition that tests the cadets' aerospace knowledge, leadership skills, and physical fitness. The Space Shuttle "Enterprise," a SR-71 "Blackbird," and the B-29 "Enola Gay," among other icons of aerospace history, will serve as a backdrop to the competition.

By moving the activity to the Udvar-Hazy Center, CAP also enables cadets to tour their nation's capital city.

Every two years, since 2001, CAP leaders have relocated the competition for geographic balance and to provide cadets new opportunities to explore America's landmarks of aerospace heritage. In 2003 and 2004, the Air Force Museum hosted the competition. In 2001 and 2002, the Air Force Academy provided the venue.

► **Learn More:** Visit cap.gov/cadets and click "NCC"

"The new kit pleasantly surprised me," writes new SM James Haldaman of Michigan. "It's a beautiful case and the CD will get a lot of use."

New members receive the kit automatically, but anyone who wants the re-designed kit may order it from CAP-Mart.

► **See photos on page 2**

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capmart.org 1-800-633-8768

Member Kit

Cadet version	#0041AB	\$18.00
Senior version	#0552A	\$ 9.75
Binder (alone)	#0380A	\$ 8.65

The cadet and senior versions include all the resources described in the article (left). The cadet kit also includes the Phase I&II aerospace and leadership texts in hard copy.

New mentoring guide available

CAPP 50-7 Mentoring: Building Our Members

“Without mentoring,” explains former CAP National Commander Maj Gen Richard Bowling, “there can be no continuity of expertise and dedication from one generation of CAP volunteers to the next.”

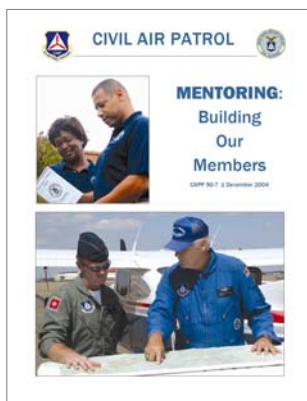
A new educational resource, CAPP 50-7, *Mentoring: Building Our Members*, defines mentoring, suggests practical techniques to lead informally as a mentor, and includes a “Mentoring Award” that anyone may use to honor someone who helps them get started in CAP or master a new specialty.

The pamphlet is designed for senior members, with tips on how adults can help other adults through mentoring. It also includes suggestions on how to connect mentoring with the Senior Member Professional Development Program.

Another pamphlet, CAPP 52-6, *Mentoring*, published in 1999, remains available for cadet mentors and the seniors who lead cadets.

Each unit will automatically receive a hard copy of the new CAPP 50-7 in the mail this winter. Units may also order a reasonable quantity of the related CAPC 9, *Mentoring Award*.

► **Download It:** Visit cap.gov/cadets and click “Updates”



NATIONAL CADET ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Cadets' Perspective

C/Col Andrew Shepherd, CAP, Vice Chair

Excellence in All We Do

It has happened to each of us at some point in our life. We get tired, burnt-out, bored, or just lazy and we think we can let a project or responsibility slide. Yet, invariably, as soon as we think we can get by with minimal exertion we find ourselves with more work than we had in the first place. Often we are upset when others don't show a good faith effort in a project we care about. Yet when we don't show that same effort, it somehow seems more acceptable in our eyes.

The CAP core value of *Excellence* should not be a mere suggestion, or something we do when it is only to our benefit. It should be something that translates from our very being into everything we touch. Excellence is giving all of our energy to a project and working just a little harder each time we begin a task. We should learn all that we can from each experience to make us that much better for the next. We should strive to improve our work, and in the process, improve ourselves.

There is no limit to what can be accomplished if Excellence is the hallmark of a person's life. There is no boundary to the expanse of a person's potential when Excellence removes barriers, real or imagined. Any organization whose members endeavor to do their utmost can do nothing but improve. Once Excellence becomes more than just a word in the leadership text or something to be remembered for a test, then the true meaning of the word has been found.

Whether you serve on the National Cadet Advisory Council or as an element member, always stretch for Excellence and you will succeed!

► **Learn More.** Visit cap.gov/cadets & click “CAC.”

Reminders

Scholarship deadlines are fast approaching. Many college and flight scholarships go unused — apply today.

► **Learn More.** Visit cap.gov/cadets & click “Scholarships.”

Cadet of the Year nominations are coming due.

Nominations from unit to wing	15 January 05
Nominations from wing to region	15 February 05
Nominations from region to NHQ	15 March 05

► **Learn More.** Visit cap.gov/cadets & click “Cadet of the Year,” or see CAPR 39-3.

Squadron of Merit & Squadron of Distinction Award selections are also coming due. These awards recognize the top cadet unit in each wing and region, respectively. In January, National Headquarters will provide wings and regions data to use in the selection process.

► **Learn More.** Visit cap.gov/cadets & click “Squadrons of Merit,” or see CAPR 39-3.



New Tool for New Members

CAP's re-designed “Member Kit” includes a CD-ROM, mini-posters, wallet cards, and more, all packaged into a professional, zip-up leather binder.

► **See story, page 1.**

